SIDELIGHTS

READ THE SIGNS,

Honolulu has enough educational institutions to provide all its inhabitants sufficient learning to make a native of Boston, in the use of the English language, look like a first-grade schoolboy. But when it comes down to the practical use of that education in the making of signs, a careful investigation will show that the money expended has to a great extent been wasted.

Signs is an old subject, but always new. In Honolulu it has been often exploited, but never exhausted. I took a trip down Palama way on Thursday, in search of a store where it was told me homemade macaroni of first-class quality could be found. On my return I walked part of the way, and had my atten tion attracted to a few curious statements employed for the purpose of attracting the attention of the public to the business being carried on by the occupants of the building in the front of which the announcements appeared.

One man, probably an oriental, evidently intended giving notice that pea nuts can be purchased by the paper bag or sugar sack. But either his paint er his knowledge of plurals was shy, for he cut out an "s," with the result that the information afforded you by the sign is: "Roast Peanut, wholesale and retail," may be procured.

The man immediately next to him was liberal in provision for cheap lodging, paint and conception of the use of the apostrophe, for he proclaimed as follows: "Tai Loy Lodging House 15c-25c-one night's." The translation thereof can not be given by me, for it was written on the signboard in Chinese

If your head is of a peculiar shape, and you need to have a tailor made chapeau, an anti-Russian gentlemen by the name of G. Shiagawa proclaims in large black letters "Straw Hat Make," and the artist accompanies his somewhat vague claim of the accomplishments of his employer by a painting of a hat intended to look like straw and fashionable, and as lifelike as anything Jamie Wilder ever put on canvas.

And, just before I reached the Nuusnu Stream, I struck a notice, hung up before a modest looking store, which even yet is as inexplicable to me as the recruiting of Russian "laborers." It was spelled correctly, and evidently constructed by a professional painter. But while he who ran might likewise read, Oh I doubt very much whether he could understand. It said: "W. Shinagawa, Vaseline and Gasoline Tinsmiths, Umbrella Repairing, Etc." "Tinsmiths" was all right, although I could not quite understand how one individual could boast of being more than one. "Umbrella Repairing" was also all right. But the "Etc." bothered me, and when I got bome I looked it up in my son's Funk & Wagnall's Standard Dictionary. Here is what these learned gentlemen say it means: "And all other things, or the rest; and so forth: used to indicate others of a kind, class, or the like, to be easily inferred from those already specified."

And if a miracle happens, and a Jap tells the truth, and the dictionary may be relied on, anything in the tin line may be manufactured to order, and repairs, even including those necessary for political fences, will be promptly

Y. Yamawaki declares he is a "shoe's maker;" omitting any connection between the last four letters of his name and his chosen profession,

The Chinese permit not the Japs to get the better of them in versatility of occupation or originality of expression. Mr. Ling Kee hired a sign man to help him out in selling merchandise, and the result of their joint efforts may be read by you any time. It is: "Smoke Tobacco and Cold Drink."

The Chinese concern, evidently unable to afford assisting Tom Sharp in paying his assistants and Advertiser bills, has utilized the dust on its plate glass window by cleaning part of it off each day in such a manner as to yield the information to the passer-by that a bakery is being conducted inside.

I sometime since endeavored to establish a puzzle department, but ou morning literary visitor would have none of it. Had my request been granted I should have pronounced the following for solution: "G. Hukuda and H. Inikasu, Watch, Maker Gold or Silver. Something." The sign quits there and then, without explanation as to how much it costs to watch, or to have gold or silver made, or what "Something" is.

And there were other queer sings too numerous to mention. At the dinner table I informed my provider of some of the discoveries I had made. He looked up for a moment from a composite consumption of soup and the Bulletin, and remarked that sometimes white people made as bad breaks, and that any day, on Queen street, might be observed a sign, some thirty feet long, stating in letters at least two feet deep and several inches thick, "Monument for Cheap Sale." Probably he told the truth, although he does not always do so. However, I subsided, and he resumed his wooing of physical and mental indigestion.

ORIENTAL EDUCATION.

Has it ever occurred to you that the Japs and the Chinese pay at least as much attention to the education of their children as do any other race? Indeed, insofar as the Japs are concerned, I believe the expression could be made

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I don't know what Doctor Clark's statistics will show as to percentages of nationalities attending our public schools, and percentages of illiteracy, and percentages of trusney and other percentages which congress in its wisdom hath decreed shall be figured out and put nicely together and printed for our edification. Perhaps he will not give them correctly. The liberty loving Russians have instilled a new spirit in the people, and a growing tendency can be obmerved to resent the inquisitorial powers sought to be exercised by government efficials. Even a white citizen, dignified by the term "prominent," appears lows: to have become a Vasilieff convert, and figuratively slapped Uncle Sam in the face and pulled his whiskers by curtly informing him that his request for copy along statistical lines was extremely impertinent. It may be that the glorious example set will spread to the orientals, and the enumerators, in their rounds to Chinatown and Japanese camps, will be informed that Hawaii's temperature is too cool for their constitutions, and that a warmer climate should forthwith

But if the good Doctor gets anywhere near the facts, he will be able to tell us that few of the brown and yellow boys are found on the streets, and few are hoodlums. They haven't time to be. The father and mother avail themselves of the public school system and almost invariably see to it that their youngsters attend. And when the hour of adjournment has arrived, and school lets ont, many of their progency still continue their pursuit of knowledge by attending institutions where their own language is taught; and the balance of the afternoon is thus consumed. I don't know whether the superintendent of public education and his bosses, the board, keep track of these schools or not, but there are plenty of them. Folklore and religion and the queer looking writing and the no less weird spelling are all in the curriculum. In the Chinese schools mathematics including arithmetic, algebra, geometry and trigonometry, must, for some reason or other, be imbibed through the assistance of an instrument which bears a startling resemblance to a necessary adjunct to a faro layout-a thing with wires and buttons on it. By means of this the market price of opium, or the average fine imposed for running a che-fa game, or the number of knots Halley is daily consuming, and like interesting statistics can

And the Jap teachers make their pupils absorb volumes concerning subjeets of every nature. I saw one of the students-a boy of about thirteenreturning from his college the other afternoon about five o'clock, with two books, one of which he told me, in good plain, everyday English, concerned photography, and the other botany. The photographs in the first instance, and the representation of plants in the second, bore out his statement, although the text was such as not to amount to corroborating evidence insofar as I was

And the achievements of the children, in both schools, are much honsted of. When a father finds a monthly report card which shows any of his numerous heirs apparent to stand way up in learning, he puts it in his shirt or his coat or his kimono, and takes it around, and shows it to all of his friends, white, black, brown and indifferent. In all probability it is filed away in his temple or shrine, and kept there with his passport and pictures of his succestors and family record and other sacred documents.

So do not think, because you are a member of a superior race, that you by any means have a monopoly on filial love, and pride and affection. The ariental, along these lines, if he be a second at all, is a mighty close cars.

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WATCH INTERPRETERS.

Did you ever endeavor to discover the truth, or pehaps a lie, by means of an interpreter! You may have an interpreter who is under all kinds of obligations to you. He may be your laundryman, or he may be your cook, or he may be the boy who delivers your groceries, bills for which your husband kicks about. If you have had this experience-and I have had it several timesdan't depend too much upon what this selfsame interpreter tells you. Investigate closely the question as to whether or not he is a friend of the person whose language is being translated. Investigate closely the question of whether

or not be is interested in the particular matter being investigated. Investigate closely the question of whether he is a member of a different society from that to which the person being investigated pays his monthly dues. Investigate closely whether he is a truly disinterested interpreter. Should be not be so get another interpreter who is not acquainted, or who is not interested, or is member of some other society, or who is under obligations to no one, and then strike a fair average of the two interpretations.

When the mathematical process is concluded, you may assume that you have gotten about three-fourths of what you tried to ascertain in the first in stance. I have a school friend who was educated in Wellesley College, and during the course therein developed very marked linguistic ability. She studied Japanese and Chinese and Korean and German and French and a bunch of other languages which are useful in the Paradise of the Pacific. Her accomplishments have been carefully concealed by her, and for purposes of her own she carefully conceals her learning. She tells me that if you want a cock or a yard-boy, and a particular applicant for the honored position is accompanied by a countryman who is able to talk English, and who questions in his native language the man who is to be paid weekly, you may rest assured that there is as much difference between the real answer and the answer you re seive, as there is between the antisaloon league and the retail liquor dealers association. And I am informed by members of the legal fraternity, who ocea sionally drop into my abode to play whist with my husband, that in court the ame close inspection of translations and interpretations is necessary.

Sometimes, do they say, a violent assault by a Porto Rican will be inter preted in such a way as to resemble a love tap; a cane knife used by a Jap, to bear a startling likeness to a fan used to ward off mosquitoes; and a revolver used by a Korean to look like a Fourth-of-July toy pistol.

On the whole, if you want to get at the truth in any matters concerning your household and your material welfare, I have only to say that, should you possess the ability of my Wellesley friend, you make a study of the languages, and rely upon yourself rather than a paid or unpaid interpreter.

A Rushin' Perpetration

And whiskered Oleo Margerine Were one day bright and early seen Walking Merchant, King and Queen. And they were mad, riz was their spleen, With ugly looks and glances keen They wandered to Nuuanu stream And called out all their fellows. They said that they had gone and seen The Governor with glances keen And asked for bread and Cottolene And sour milk and nicotine And chocolate drops and lima bean And roasted duck and canned sardine And the Governor he acquiesced and said such men he'd never seen And Mott-Smith went with a soup tureen To get the stuff they wanted.

Twas then they said they're getting lean; The work was hard, the climate keen And 'twas a shame to work the cream Of Iwilei society. And would the Governor condescend A member of his staff to lend

To cut the bread and the butter spread And also women and children fend From onslaughts of the Sheriff's men. And the Governor said, "Let's arbitrate; I'm shy of men but maybe late This week I'll have a fuller slate

And then we'll see about it." So Vaseline and Gasoline and whiskered Oleo Margerine With injured spleen and glances mean went down to Nuuanu stream And told it to their fellows.

WHY SUSPENSION OF COASTWISE LAW IS APPROVED BY NAGEL

By Ernest G. Walker.

(Mail Special to The Advertiser.) WASHINGTON, April 22 .- Secretary Nagel's opinion regarding the coastwise suspension bill is expressed in a letter nade public here today. It is as fol-

Department of Commerce and Labor Office of the Secretary.
 'Washington, April 21, 1916.
 'Dear Sir:—I have your communication of March 25, asking the opinion of

my department concerning H. R. 7539.
As you are aware, this presents a controversy as to which a good deal may be said upon either side.

"The commissioner of navigation is opposed to the bill as wrong in principle. Hawaii came under our flag voluntarily, and ought to be prepared to take the bitter with the sweet. He adds that the penalty of \$200 for traveller in foreign ships in the like with the sweet. eling in foreign ships is quite liberally remitted or mitigated, and is therefore not as serious as it appears.
"Furthermore, the bill is the first de

parture in a century from the policy of reserving American trade to American vessels (a policy which has been held not to apply to the Philippines). It will doubtless be followed, if passed, by hills for opening the Porto Rican trade to foreign ships, and after the opening of the Panama Canal it might be fol-lowed by a bill to allow foreign ships to carry from our Atlantic to our Pa-cific Coast. Again, American shipowners and shipbuilders are opposed to it, and the American Marine Engineers and Marine Firemen's Association oppose it, chiffy because it will put Japanese crews into competition with Americans. "On the other hand, there are strong considerations in favor of this bill, as are set forth in the following language n President Roosevelt's annual message

"The unfortunate failure of the the last congress was followed by the last congress was followed by the taking off of certain Pacific steamships, which has greatly ham-pered the movement of passengers between Hawaii and the mainland. Unless the congress is prepared by positive encouragement to secure proper facilities in the way of ship ping between Hawaii and the main land, then the constwise shipping laws should be so far relaxed as to prevent Hawaii suffering as it is

now suffering.
"Occasionally two weeks slapse beveen sullings of American passenger dps between the Coast and Honolulu ships between the Coast and Honolulu, and this, of course, is a great hamiltap on luminess. The prevailing sentiment in Ifnwall is undoubtedly in favor of the hill, and it is to be remembered that relief is asked only with respect to passengers, and not as to freight "Pinally, the practical workings of the penalty clause are to my mind onter the teemely unsatisfactory. The very fact today.

that we are constantly called upon to that we are constantly called upon to remit and to mitigate demonstrates the unsatisfactory condition which now prevails. If the system was just and did not work oppressively, we should, of course, once for all refuse to yield to these demands; and we do yield only because we recognize that the hardships are such as the defended of the course we recognize that the hardships are such as to demand relief. I am inclined to believe that when a system esponds so poorly to actual conditions the remedy ought perhaps to be sought in the statute itself, and ought not to be looked for to such an extent to the executive officer. I see the following

amendment has been suggested:
'Provided further, That the provisions of this act shall extend only to foreign vessels plying between ports of the United States and one or more of the ports of China, Japan, the Philippines or Austra-

"This, it appears to me, would in some measure maintain the protection upon which we have insisted and at the same time give hona fide travelers the privileges to which they ought to be entitled. Very respectfully, "CHARLES NAGEL,

"Hon. William S. Greene, chairman committee on merchant marine and fish-eries, house of representatives."

MONEY FOR FILLING QUEEN EMMA SITE

Comber submitted a proposed amendment to the Sundry Civil' bill, to appropriate \$150,000 for filling in camp site at Queen Emma Point for camping purposes, etc., at Honolulu, Hawaii. He also submitted an amendment relative to the purchase of dredged material for the development of the naval station at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, intended to be proposed by him to the Naval Appropriation bill.

ROOSEVELT PARTY IS

GREETED BY THE KING

CHRISTIANIA, May 4.—Colone! Roosevelt and his family were greated here today at the railway station by the king and queen of Norway.

GENERAL GREENE ILL.

NEW YORK, May 4.—General Greene underwent an operation for appendicities today. His condition is serious.

ARMORI BURNED,

TOKIO, May 3.—The town of Armori, near here, was nearly destroyed by fire today. In the senate on April 12 Mr. Mc-Cumber submitted a proposed amend-

Nature's Mysteries

One is divided in mind whether to! head this article as above or to call it sun because of the density of the two bodies. It is the attraction of matter to matter, combined with the revolution to the best scientific opinion it is not of the earth around the sun, that holds the company of the carth around the sun, that holds the company of the carth around the sun, that holds the carth around the sun that holds t

met, which returns to visit us after a period of seventy-five years. It is ore than half a century since a notable planet appeared in our skies heretofore, and when Donati's great light flamed for nights through the western sky covering half a hemisphere in 1858, it was even then an object of terror to a great many people even in our own dicity, what an universidade it was even the sky covering half a hemisphere in 1858, it was even then an object of terror to this comet through space and multiply it by the number of years of its periodicity, what an universidade it is a round its far-away focus and sends it back after a period of seventy years? If we were to take the average speed of the flight of its by the number of years of its periodicity, what an universidate is a round its far-away focus and sends it back after a period of seventy years? If we were to enlightened country.

We know too much about comets to magine that they are providential portents. Since Halley's time we have learned a good many of their laws and understand some little thing about comets. We know, for example, that they circulate around the sun passing the remotest flight of Halley's comet reaches, and if going far beyond that limit we could reach even by the flight either in the form of an ellipse or of a parabola. Those that travel in a remoteness of the farthest point in the remoted a parabola come rushing down the skips curve in which Donati's comet turns, parabola come rushing down the skies curve in which Donati's comet turns, and swing around our sun, to pass out on its other side far into space and never to return. Our planetary system all travels around the sun in orbits which are elliptical, but the cometic ellipses are much flatter than those of mind has made vast conquests over the mysteries of nature since our restrictions. the other far away in space. The movement of the comet is not uniform in its pace throughout the whole of its course. The farther from the sun the slower its progress, and as this diapha-nous body rushes down the sky sunward its pace is accelerated until it whirls around the center of our system at a speed that defies the imagination of man to conceive of what it is. This is in exact conformity to the law of the planets, including our own earth, which at its apogee goes slowly and accelerates its pace as it approaches its peri-gee. The reason for this is to nicely balance the centrifugal and centripetal forces, for if the earth moved as slowly at its perigee as at its apogee, it would be drawn into the sun and destroyed, whereas if it moved as rapidly at its apogee as at its perigee, it would fly off into space and be lost in a dif-ferent way, perishing form cold in the one case as it would from heat in the

We do not even know what a comet is composed of. Its tensity, its inck of substantiality, is one of the greatest puzzles about it. This one in the sky now at some near day will pass directly between our earth and the sun, but ly between our earth and the sun, but it will not east any more shadow than the atmosphere of our earth. The sunlight will gleam not only through its tail, but through the nucleus of the comet. As it comes down the skies toward us, at first there is no tail to the comet, but as it approaches the sun this buds out as if it were some great bird from the unknown prouted and grew its tail feathers.

THE CAUSE OF NEURALGIA

Must Be Understood Before the Diseese Can Be Cured So That it Will Stay Cured.

The reason that neuralgia so often recurs after the ordinary treatment is not because it is incurable but because these treatments fail to remove the cause

Neuralgia has been correctly called the ry of the starved nerves for better blood. Its most common cause is debility. In every case of neuralgia it will be found that the general health is run down and that consequently the nerves are not re-ceiving sufficient nourishment. Cold, dampness and decayed teeth are some-times indirect causes but only to the extent that the body is unable to resist,

owing to its debilitated condition.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills afford the most effective treatment of neuralgia. They build up the general health and fully nourish the underfed nerves in the only

possible way by building up and purifying the blood.

Mrs. Thomas Stott, of No. 211 Jackson street, Redwood City, Cal., who was cured of neuralgia, says:

"Dr. Williams" Pink Pills helped meright away and in a short time com-

We know the earth is bound to the to the best scientific epinion it is not the planet in its orbit to its center.

But what is the force that holds Hallional being, using articulate speech and thinking in syllogisms, appeared around the sun? There is not substance enough in it to account for this according to the carth. Before sunrise these mornings watch-ing to the laws of gravitation, and why does it come from the regions of sun-less space into our system, tailless, to glimpse of the famous Halley's grow this immense flaming tail behind it as it comes nearer the sunf By what law is its speed accelerated as it ap-proaches the center of our system in order to prevent it from falling into the sun and being destroyed and what is the force that turns it around its fardicity, what an unimaginable distance it travels out into space, away beyond the most distant of our regular planets; but Donati's comet requires about a thousand years to make the circuit of its orbit.

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which are elliptical, but the cometic ellipses are much flatter than those of the earth or the other planets. The one in the sky now takes seventy-five years to make its circuit around the sun. The ellipse has two fixed central points instead of the one center of a perfect circle, and these are called the foci of the ellipse. The cometic orbit has one focus very close to the sun and the other far away in space. The and he know no more than he who look-ed upon it as a bolt cast by the hand of the anthropomorphic god of the Greeks from Mount Olympus. We know that our own earth is permeated through and through with this force. It is found in the dead amorphic rock. It fills every globule of water in the oceans. Without it there could be no life, no bud could burst, no blade could grow, no sentiert being could breaths, no mind could think, no soul could aspire. But what it is, whence it draws its supplies, its hidden laws and its essen-tial nature are as unknown to the most advanced scientist of our day as to the savage of a thousand years ago.

Men have lived in this world 10,000 years, and have learned so much about the mysteries of their home, and yet know so comparatively little, are so far away from a fundamental understading of anything about it or themselves, that surely the contemplation of the world's many mysteries and of our inability to fathom them should naturally create in the mind of a thoughtful man the impression that ruled the spirit of Abra-ham Lincoln during all the hours of his maturer life. His biographers tell us that Lincoln's favorite hymn was the one beginning with the line: "Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud?" Abraham Lincoln was in many ways a peculiar member of the human race. Most of us are more like the king of old who vaunted to himself: "Is not this great Babylon that I have build-ed?" When we think how slow the progress of the race has been from gnorance to knowledge and how little of the sum total of nature's mysteries we have even begun to fathom, it would seem as if the natural conclusion of the human mind should be that it behooves us to be very slow in making up our mind to final decisions upon any of these mysteries.

VERDICT OF GUILTY AGAINST GAMBLERS

Two Are Acquitted, but Sixteen Are Convicted and Must Pay the Penalty.

and the day before on a gambling charge were found guilty by the jury yesterday afternoon. Two were ne sentedur userque out to the case was conducted by County Attorney

was conducted by Catheart in person.

This is the first conviction in a long the grounds of non-support Kanewa on the grounds of non-support vorce to Christina Kanewa from David Judge Robinson has granted a di-

The Divorce Court. elated over their victory, prosecuting officers are considerably trial have gone free. Consequently the appeal to the circuit court and stand charge. As a rule the gamblers who time in the circuit court on a gambling

and extreme cruelty.

Kulaia Nahulu has filed suit for divorce from John Nahulu, alleging that he not only does not support her, but that he spends much of his time in beating, kicking and choking her.

Mary Frages wants a divorce from Eniss Frages on the grounds of non-support and desertion.

Chun Kog Bued.

Suit has been filed in the circuit court by Marston Campbell, commissioner of public lands, against Chun Kog, for \$1518, alleged to be due as back rental of Kapaa lands. Chun Kog is associated with Hee Fat, against whom a similar suit has already been slied.

KANSAS CITY HAS EXPENSIVE FIRE

KANSAS CITY, May 5.—Peet Broth-ors' manufacturing plans was destroyed by 850 yesterday, the less being call-mated at one and a half million dellars.